

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Sharon L. Morris, R.N., and Dean E. Morris
DATE: October 4, 1996
SERIAL NO.: 08/286,413 GROUP ART UNIT: 2111
FILED: August 5, 1994 EXAMINER: R. Gibson
FOR: "Automatic Surgical Sponge Counter and Blood Loss Determination System"
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A94087US (51929/1)

DECLARATION OF SHARON L. MORRIS, R.N., UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am familiar with the above-referenced invention as claimed in the claims presented in the Rule 116 Response dated September 24, 1996 filed in the above-referenced patent application.

I am a registered nurse, and I have been working in operating rooms for over 5 years (my résumé is attached). I have assisted in over 3,500 operations. I am aware of a long-standing problem to which there has been no reasonable solution to date - namely, easy, accurate determination of blood loss.

The above-referenced invention solves this long-felt but unsolved need - that of easy, accurate determination of blood loss. All prior devices of which I am aware require manual calculation or manual input to accurately determine blood loss. This is especially important when

dealing with young patients, where a small inaccuracy of blood loss can be crucial. The limitation of paragraph (d) of claim 1 allows truly automatic calculation of blood loss.

The undersigned hereby declares that all statements made of her own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and that this statement is made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

10/9/96
Date

Sharon L. Morris RN
Sharon L. Morris, R.N.

51929001.DEC/sn

SHARON L. MORRIS, RN, BSN

88 Zinnia Drive
Covington, LA 70433
(504) 893-1062

Current RN License: LA #68391
Marital Status: Married
Date of Birth: September 2, 1967

Education

Graduated 5/91

Louisiana State University
School of Nursing
New Orleans, Louisiana
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Professional Experience

9/96 to Present

Slidell Memorial Hospital, Slidell, Louisiana (5 O.R.'s)
Staff Registered Nurse O.R. Circulate and Scrub all areas.

3/93 - 8/96

Staff Registered Travel Nurse

Staff Registered Travel Nurse O.R. Circulated and Scrubbed in a variety of specialties, including; Neuro, Ortho, Endoscopy, Pediatric, Plastic, Vascular, and General. Travel assignments include:

7/96 - 8/96 *Tulane University Hospital* (15 O.R.'s) New Orleans, Louisiana
1/96 - 7/96 *Stanford University Hospital* (20 O.R.'s) Stanford, California
5/94 - 12/95 *Kalispell Regional Hospital* (6 O.R.'s) Kalispell, Montana
1/94 - 5/94 *Durham Regional Hospital* (11 O.R.'s) Durham, North Carolina
9/93 - 12/93 *St. Mary's Hospital* (16 O.R.'s) Richmond, Virginia
7/93 - 9/93 *Community Hospital of Rhode Island* (3 O.R.'s) Cranston, Rhode Island
3/93 - 6/93 *Medical College of Virginia* (25 O.R.'s) Richmond, Virginia

References Furnished Upon Request

5/91 - 3/93

Alton Ochsner Foundation Hospital, Jefferson, Louisiana - (19 O.R.'s)
Head Nurse O.R., Pediatric and Plastic Surgery (One Year) Staff Registered Nurse O.R., (Ten Months) Contact: Gaylyn Mileur (504) 838-3547

Other Work Experience

1/91 - 5/91

Hotel Dieu Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana
Emergency Room Nurse Technician

12/90 - 5/91

Mercy Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana
Emergency Room Nurse Technician

6/89 - 12/90

Mercy Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana
Nurse Technician (Pool)

1/90 - 8/90

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana
Instructor, Metropolitan College, teaching medical terminology to visually impaired students.

**Continuing
Education:**

1995 Annual AORN Congress - Contact Hours Earned 31.6
1994 Annual AORN Congress - Contact Hours Earned 22.8
Medical Express, Inc., O.S.H.A. Training Course 10/95
Guide to Living with HIV Infections - 10 CEU's 6/93
Advances in Laproscopic Surgery - 1.8 CEU's 4/93
More CEU's available upon request
Camp Nursing Elective, Diabetic Camp Louisiana Lions Club, Leesville, LA 1991

**Current
Certifications:**

BCLS Provider Course

**Organizations &
Activities:**

Member Association of Operating Room Nurses 1991-Present
Attended AORN Congress 1994, 1995
ECMO Team Member, Ochsner Foundation Hospital 1992
Marker Model Committee Member, Ochsner Foundation Hospital 1992
Louisiana Association of Student Nurses 1987 - 1991
Junior Class Treasurer, LSU School of Nursing 1989
Key Club Secretary, Riverdale High School 1985
Junior Class President, Riverdale High School 1984

Other:

Co-Inventor, Automatic Surgical Sponge Counter and Blood Loss Determination System, Patent Pending.

References Furnished Upon Request